THEIR TRUE FACE

PART FIVE

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(Part Five)

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FOREWORD

The victory over Nazi Germany and militarist Japan was scored 37 years ago. Thanks to the consistently peaceful policies of the Soviet Union and all other countries of the socialist community, close to four decades have elapsed without humanity suffering another world war. The Soviet nation, peoples of goodwill all over the planet exert tremendous efforts to ensure the coming generations a peaceful future, so they can conduct their creative endeavors unobtrusively, developing themselves scientifically and culturally, building their welfare free from the threat of war, probing still deeper in the mysteries of atom and outer space for the benefit of man.

However, peoples of the world have not forgotten what suffering and losses they had to endure until they reached their Victory, what great price had to be paid in terms of human blood for today's Peace. In the course of the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945), the Soviet people displayed its unswerving unity and profound patriotism, both at the front and in the rear, in the territories temporarily occupied by the Nazis.

The life of all honest people during Nazi

occupation was unbelievably difficult. They were killed for the slightest expression, let alone act, of disobedience, for belonging to national groups condemned by Nazism to complete destruction. The past war brought the peoples of the world innumerable trials and disaster. In the Ukraine alone, the Nazi barbarians exterminated a total of 5,400,000 civilians and prisoners of war. More than two million were transported to Germany for slave labor. The occupiers turned entire administrative regions into rubble, ruining 714 cities and 28,000 villages, robbing clean more than 16,000 industrial enterprises, tens of thousands of collective and state farms. Direct material losses thus inflicted amounted to 285 thousand million rubles.

The Soviet people rose in arms against the hateful enemy. This struggle grew into a holy war. The earth literally burned under the feet of the Nazi occupiers. They were fought both at the front and behind the rear lines. The Nazis were aided by the Ukrainian nationalists who met the aggressor with open arms. Together with the Nazis, the nationalists tried to subjugate the disobedient, to throw to their knees and enslave the entire Ukrainian nation.

It is hard to list all of the crimes perpetrated by these traitors on Ukrainian soil. Throughout the period of temporary Nazi occupation, the Ukrainian nationalists proved most zealous assistants of the invaders in enforcing the Nazi "new order." They waited hand and foot on the accursed Fuhrer Adolf Hitler and other Nazi misanthropists, carrying

out the dirtiest assignments of the Nazi secret and punitive services.

It was the Ukrainian nationalists — all those affiliated with the OUN key-figures such as Bandera, Melnyk and Borovets (alias Bulba) — who, guided by their bosses from the Gestapo and different *einsatzkommandos,* massacred and tortured Soviet patriots, murdered thousands upon thousands of perfectly innocent elders, women and children.

It was OUN members who worked under the Nazis as village elders, burgomasters, policemen, *wachmans* and death camp overseers, who carried out the will of their Nazi superiors tipping the Gestapo off on Soviet patriots, helping the invaders to plunder Ukrainian towns and villages, rounding up hundreds of thousands of young people and sending to Germany as forced laborers.

It was the Ukrainian nationalists who worked as journalists for Nazi periodicals and Nazi-sired propaganda departments, sparing no bombastic epithets praising the bloodthirsty Fuhrer and his "new order," spreading provocative slander, threatening people with the worst of retribution for breaching criminal Nazi decrees.

After the war, M. Stepanyak, former head of the Banderite OUN Chief Leadership, testified; "All cadres of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, all its organizational 'cells'..., absolutely all means they had at their disposal were aimed in one direction — to suppress the nationwide movement of resistance against Nazi Germany, helping the Germans to hold

their ground in the Ukraine. Such was the position of Melnyk. The same stand was taken by the Banderite leadership."

The echo of the last gun salvoes of the Second World War died over the earth. The Soviet Union gained its world historic victory in the Great Patriotic War, the coming to be of the world socialist system and the strengthening of the USSR's prestige in the world arena harassed the imperialist camp. International reaction, led by the United States, started the cold war againsts the Soviet Union and the young socialist countries, considerably worsening the international climate. Intelligence agencies and ideological centers in the U.S., England, Canada and certain other Western countries began to recruit actively former Nazi collaborators and turncoats of different shades in their subversive campaigning — characters who had fled from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, afraid of well-deserved retributions from their own people. The Declaration providing for responsibility for Nazi war criminals, published in November of 1943 on orders from the leaders of the United States, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom, has long been forgotten in the West. The U.S. and British ruling circles have gone back on their own decision to bring to book all of the Nazi war criminals.

In this dirty campaigning, American and British intelligence placed special hopes in the Ukrainian nationalists. It is by no means coincidental. Espionage, banditism, serving faithfully whoever pays fair money for this Judas service — this has always constituted

the political credo of the OUN functionaries. Special services in Western countries have presently brought the OUN leadership under their control. The nationalists, after losing their Nazi masters, didn't think twice in placing all their organizations at the complete disposal of imperialist reaction.

I. Krutiy, formerly a leading Ukrainian emigre figure who eventually broke with the nationalists and returned to the Ukraine, told the truth about the Ukrainian nationalist groups in the West and their actual aims. He made a statement for the press in which he said in part; "The nine years I spent as an emigre after the war finally convinced me that, after the defeat of Nazi Germany, the Ukrainian *otamans* (leaders) found new masters among the American imperialists and became their paid agents. Schemers and adventurers like Stephen Bandera, Mykola Lebed, Andriy Melnyk, Svyryd Dovhal, Volodymyr Dolenko, Taras Borovets, Ivan Bahryany, Zenon Matla, Mykola Kapustiansky and other such 'political' leaders sold themselves out to foreign intelligence services, on whose assignments they try to organize espionage, terror and subotage in the Ukraine. It is a known fact that these *otamans* and their 'organizations' have no political force whatsoever but are merely cadres for the American and other imperialist intelligence services."

Here is yet another testimony shedding light on the nationalist "elite." Stepan Dzhugalo, once a ranking member of the OUN FB (Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, Foreign Branches) leadership, thus describes the depths

to which the Banderite brass hats have sunk; "OUN leaders abroad and their henchmen are people varying in age, education and character. Still, they are united by common features; all of them strive to multiply their fortunes and bask in luxury... and, not working anywhere, they are determined to live in style. In their attempts to reach this goal which is sacred to them, they have long ignored whatever moral and ethic dictates. Having lost all human decency, they are prepared to sell not only their own body and soul, their ideas and slogans, but also those of people who are close to them and who trust them, fighting over every penny like dogs over a morsel."

Nowadays, the Ukrainian nationalist traitors who ran away to the West in the wake of the fleeing Nazis enlarge on how they have never served the Nazis but have only maintained "allied contacts" (sic) with Nazi occupation bodies "for a certain period" and for "tactical reasons." What is more, Ukrainian nationalist bosses abroad have gone so far as to claim that they "defended" the population against the arbitrary rule of the Nazis and all but fought them. For example, Yaroslav Stetsko, once an agent of Nazi military intelligence and now the head of OUN FB, notorious for his war crimes, terrorism, anti-Semitism and anti-democratic activity, tries his best to deny his Nazi past in a book under the pretentious title *June 30, 1941* (Toronto). In part, he comes out with the ridiculous allegation that the Ukrainian nationalists "never collaborated with the Nazis." Instead, the *Roland* and *Nachtigall* battalions, the *Waffen SS Division*

Galizien (Division "Halychyna") and punitive police units — all manned by nationalist thugs, trained and armed by the Nazis and placed under the direct command of Nazi officers and generals — had what Yaroslav Stetsko has the nerve to describe as "anti-German aims."

Facts, however, appear to be irrefutable. This booklet is about the sinister deeds of OUN traitors to the Ukrainian people — Anatole Bilotserkivsky (alias: Anton Shpak), Petro Tarnavsky, Hrihoriy Yuzvak and Vasyl Bakutin. It is also about the so-called League of Ukraine's Liberation (LVU) which unites the outmost right extremist reactionary emigre strata in Canada and the U.S. and which almost openly propagandizes Nazi ideology. It is about their scandalous Nazi past and as disgusting present doings.

Currently in the employ of the most aggressive militarist, extremist and revanchist imperialist circles, the Ukrainian nationalists have unleashed a slanderous campaign against the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, against any talks between countries with different socioeconomic systems. The mere mention of peace, peaceful coexistence or cooperation sends these traitors to the Ukrainian people into a fit of rage and animal hatred.

But vain are the efforts of the Ukrainian nationalists. Forever condemned by the Soviet people, the Banderite and other OUN sellouts have long been doomed. They have long been people without their Motherland who

found themselves outside the locked door of history, from where, in the words of the impassioned Soviet Ukrainian writer Yaroslav Halan, there is only one way — that of shame and eternal oblivion.

FRIENDS AND FOES OF YA. STETSKO AND CO.

It was a rather long period that Yaroslav Stetsko, formerly the mock "Premier" of the "Independent" (i. e., temporarily occupied by Nazis) Ukraine, ventured another visit to America. Despite his inborn thirst for publicity and love for travelling, he had sat in the shade in Munich since 1976, after he had been denied the possibility of coming out with anti-Soviet slander during a Zionist get-together in Brussels. That time, the undesirability of Stetsko's speech at the meeting had been explained by Simon Wiesenthal, a well-known Zionist who could hardly be suspected of any warm feelings toward the Soviet Union. "One could easily compromise any undertaking," S. Wiesenthal had declared, "by merely mentioning the name of Stetsko." He had had in mind certain documents dating to the period of Stetsko's office as "Prime Minister," especially the text of his curriculum vitae, prepared for representatives of the Nazi occupation authorities in Lviv. This particular document, written in German and Ukrainian, contains Stetsko's eloquent assurances concerning his, Stetsko's, being faithful to the existing regime, assurances which he addressed to the Nazis. Promising the occupiers his complete readiness to work for the benefit of the Nazi "new order" in Europe, Yaroslav

Stetsko specifically writes, "This is why I am of the opinion that the Jews must be exterminated and that it is well worth transferring the German methods of Jewish extermination to the Ukraine, so as to prevent them (the Jews) from getting assimilated."

Today, Yaroslav Stetsko claims that this particular passage from his biography must have been faked. Generally speaking, the postwar Stetsko, as well as all the other OUN functionaries, have done their best to deny their collaboration with the Nazis and have even tried to prove that, during WWII, the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists waged its "struggle" on "two fronts," fighting both the Nazis and the Soviet Army.

And how clumsy they are in their efforts to prove this point! Take for example the ill-famed Act of June 30, 1941. Laying themselves out to assure one and all that this was a document manifesting "resistance against the occupiers," the OUN adherents applied sheer bluff, "forgetting" to mention Clause 3 of that Act which states that "the newly restored Ukrainian State will act hand in hand with Great National-Socialist Germany which is establishing a new order in Europe, and in the whole world, under the leadership of its chief, Adolf Hitler... The Ukrainian National Revolutionary Army, which is being formed on Ukrainian soil, will continue to fight the enemy jointly with its ally — the German Army..."

Marking the 25th anniversary of the Act of June 30, 1941, Yaroslav Stetsko and his racket simply omitted the compromising Clause 3 (which is provided above) in publishing the

text of this document. They also added that both Stephen Bandera and Yaroslav Stetsko had been thrown in a concentration camp by the Nazis for the publication of this Act, and that the occupiers had kept them there until the end of the war.

Further on, we shall explain what kind of "imprisonment" Bandera had during the war, but now let us shed some light on what is described by the nationalists as the internment of Yaroslav Stetsko by the Nazis after the proclamation of the Act of June 30, 1941, using facts rendered below.

Among other archival documents are two of his letters dated July 5 and 7 of 1941, drawn up in Lviv and addressed to Hitler and the Nazi Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Berlin.

In the first letter Stetsko explained to the Fuhrer that it was by the Act of June 30 that his subordinate Ukrainian nationalists, abiding by the "generally known aspirations of the Fuhrer of the German people for the creation of a new order, based on the only fair principle of the freedom of nations," made their contribution to the establishment of that "new order" in Eastern Europe. Like a devoted dog, Stetsko licked Hitler's hand, extending to him and his "heroic army" heartfelt wishes for victory and the best of success in his cause which had been so effectively begun. He also expressed hopes that the "victory" of the Nazis in the war would enable OUN to "take an active part in the international life of New Europe."

In the first paragraph of his second letter concerning the Act of June 30, Stetsko, referring to himself as a "deputy to the OUN leader

Stephen Bandera and head of the Ukrainian Government," explained that that document confirmed the Ukrainian nationalists' conviction of the need in "the closest possible cooperation and solid unity with the great German State which will bring about our liberation from the slavery."

The above quotation and Stetsko's message of July 3, 1941 to the Italian fascist leader Mussolini allow us to add that the nationalist leader had in mind precisely "Jewish-Bolshevik slavery," as he put it himself. At present, however, considering the circumstances, he does his best to convince everybody that the OUNites have always remained the best friends of the Jews, and that they will always remain ones.

Stetsko's mendacity — and the reader will have sufficient reasons to believe it — is something perfectly native to this character, so we won't go into it any deeper now but will rather quote from his letter to the Nazi Foreign Minister, Joachim von Ribbentrop; "We understand," Stetsko assured him, "just as we appreciate and are fully aware that this is of decisive importance for the subsequent course of history and the development of all-embracing relationships between Germany and the Ukrainian people*; we know that the sacrifices of the heroic German Army which risks its life today, fighting the enemy in the remote fields of the Ukraine, are worth avenging... On the other hand — and I intend

* Here and further on Ya. Stetsko refers to the Ukrainian nationalists, brazenly calling them "the Ukrainian people" — **O.V.**

neither to cast a shadow on our fraternal ties which are so badly needed by the Ukrainian people, nor to reduce our assistance of Great Germany in this struggle against Moscow — I am most respectfully offering my services."

Both these letters are apparently an excellent example of the most degrading servility, on the part of the nationalists, for the benefit of the Nazis; the author stresses his conviction that there is a tremendous need in "the closest possible cooperation" and voices his cherished hopes for the furthering of "all-embracing relationships" between OUN and the Nazis, his laudation of the "heroic German Army" and, finally, his "most respectfully" offering of his own good offices which, on his part, can only imply dog-true obedience to and respect for his Nazi masters, all add up to one thing.

These bootlicking messages cannot be found to contain even the slightest hint at any kind of resistance against the Nazi occupiers — something in glaring contrast with what the mock "Premier" and his racket are trying so hard to prove now. Still, the above facts far from exhaust the list of evidences which arouse the indignation of the general public in the West. One should also remember that, apart from the Act of June 30, 1941, proclaimed at the Prosvita Society in Lviv, there was also the "Declaration of the Government of the Ukrainian State" in which Stetsko's "administration" pledged to eliminate the effects of combat actions... and to promote the economic activity, in order to "be in a position to grant independent economic aid to the German Army."

Both of the aforementioned documents — the

Act and the Declaration — were carried before mid-August of 1941 by nationalist publications in Lviv Region — of course, those allowed by the Nazi authorities.

Here is yet another evidence. On the night of July 3, 1941, a group of the OUN thugs who, on orders from their *provid* leaders, served in Nazi-sired *Nachtigall* Battalion, carried out an "action" during which a number of Lviv's intellectuals holding Professor degrees were slaughtered. The only fault of the victims was that they were either Jews or Poles. The murderers were led by Roman Shukhevych, OUN's VIP and skilled terrorist who was also a career officer of the *Wehrmacht.* On July 9, 1941, around nine in the afternoon, when Yaroslav Stetsko was in his chauffeured limousine en route to his sister who lived at 9 Voytikh St., an unidentified patriot fired four shots at the car of the "Premier," killing Klymenko, the driver. Stetsko was quick enough, jumping out of the car, dashing across the street and hiding in the nearest gateway, to escape the people's avenging hand with which whoever was the assassin had tried to pay the nationalist back for the "exploits" of his *Nachtigall* thugs who were trained by OUN and led by Stetsko's associate R. Shukhevych. According to *Samostiina Ukraina* — the so-called official organ of Stetsko's "state administration" — the person who had made the attempt on his life was on the wanted list of both the Ukrainian and Nazi police. This newspaper also informed that a German combat unit had surrounded and combed through the adjacent streets. In other words, on July 9 the

Nazis not only had no intention of arresting the newly-brought-to-light "premier" but, on the contrary, made every effort to find whoever had dared to hunt down the OUN number-one hangman.

Such are the facts and evidence as provided by the nationalist media. Still, there are also documents which belong to Stetsko himself. They expose his lies concerning the "repressions" to which OUN functionaries were allegedly subjected by the Nazis, and those concerning OUN's mythical "struggle" against the German occupiers.

On August 4, 1941, Yaroslav Stetsko sent a message to his subordinates from Berlin, informing them that on July 9, 1941, he had been "arrested" by the Germans and taken to Berlin. Stetsko must have been scared by those four shots fired at him on Voytikh St. so much that a month later he proved unable to offer a more or less credible story about how he had turned up in Berlin altogether. In the meantime, there is an archival letter in which Yaroslav Stetsko, prior to his departure from Lviv, advises Andrew Sheptytsky on this "significant event" in his life. This message never even mentions his arrest. Instead, there is a definite measure of pride in Stetsko's writing to the Rt. Rev. Sheptytsky that he is about to go on an official trip to the very capital city of the Third Reich. Naturally, Andrew Sheptytsky would be the last person whom Stetsko would ever tell a lie.

In the message of August 4, 1941, Stetsko informs that Bandera has been in Berlin since June 29 and explains the Nazi decision to

break up the Ukrainian lands (i. e., joining four Western Ukrainian regions to Poland, to be officially called "General Government" in Berlin, and giving Chernivtsi Region to Rumania) by "wartime needs." He further writes that on July 7 he sent a letter to Ribbentrop (we have mentioned it above) and calls on "the Ukrainian people" to behave so as to convince the German authorities of its obedience. In Stetsko's own words, such a behavior would persuade "the German State to display a State-forming attitude and eventually establish lasting friendly relationships between the Free and Independent Ukrainian State and the Great German Reich."

The above might as well suffice, within the limits of this chapter, to describe the "revolutionary" efforts of the nationalists, particularly those of Yaroslav Stetsko during WWII. The attitude of OUN to the Nazis must not be regarded as something out of the ordinary. Mankind knows other such "politicians" as collaborationists. In Norway it was Kvisling, in Holland it was Mussert, in France it was Darland, in Belgium it was Degrelle, in Slovakia it was Hlinka and in Croatia it was Pavelich. Incidentally, the latter received several letters from Stetsko that same year 1941 in which this "statesman" expressed his friendly feelings and offered cooperation.

Most such collaborationists are known to have met their end on a gallows. Stetsko was spared it, thanks to the efforts of some "guardian angels" and is now trying his best to justify the hopes placed in him by his rescuers. Keeping a sensitive finger on the pulse of the

market, he at times lets himself go in his wheeling and dealing, hoping thus to win the reputation of a "big-time politician" in the eyes of his current employers and to raise his own worth accordingly.

Knowing that it's best to strike while the iron is hot, Stetsko did more than advertising himself in the United States. He spared little effort in whitewashing OUN-UPA before the general public and in including Roman Shukhevych, one of the most active OUN cutthroats, officer of the Nazi *Wehrmacht* and veteran agent of the German counterintelligence service — *Abwehr* — in the number of the nationalist saints. Grieving over his death in Bilohorshcha (not far from Lviv) where this bandit finally received his just deserts on March 5, 1950, Stetsko and the nationalist press list Shukhevych's numerous posts in the nationalist racket, portraying him as some knightly hero. It is noted, in particular, that Shukhevych, as one of the founding members of UVO-OUN-UPA, organized various "combat" actions ("combat" as an adjective is hardly relevant here, as these were by and large acts of terrorism, which is an altogether different category — **O. V.**) and later took part in the *Abwehr*-sired adventure of setting up what became known as "Karpatska Sich." Before the war, the *Abwehr* formed OUN's "field" or "march groups" which, attached to the forward Nazi troops, forced their way in the Ukraine. The "heroic deeds" of these groups are adequately illustrated by the atrocities of the aforementioned *Nachtigall* Battalion. According to Stetsko, Roman Shukhevych was a co-author of

the Act of June 30 — also mentioned above — and, at the same time and by some extraordinary logic, the "very initiator of OUN's two-front war against both Germany and Russia." Shukhevych is also referred to as the creator and Chairman of the General Secretariat of the so-called Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council (UGVR). Finally, it is asserted that Roman Shukhevych was Commander in Chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA).

Yaroslav Stetsko and the rest of the OUN dignitaries needed this feverish activity in order to have the spotlight thrown on themselves in the ongoing provocative campaign defending "human rights in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries." OUN's attempts of using Shukhevych as a trump card in their dirty game as "human rights activists" leave us no other alternative but to concentrate at greater length on the doings of this particular nationalist "hero."

Roman Shukhevych was born into the family of a prosperous lawyer in Lviv. As a student of the Polytechnic Institute he proved very little bent on the academic side and joined a local UVO-OUN organization before graduation. Eventually, he quit the institute and it was through him that the OUN *provid* leaders, then headed by Eugene Konowaletz, gambling on the 7th "commandment" of the OUN *Decalog* ("You shall not hesitate to commit even the most brutal crime"), dispatched brainwashed teenagers to rob post offices to finance the "liberation struggle" which was then being generously subsidized by German intelligence.

It is true that Roman Shukhevych neither

invented nor developed the system of organizing and carrying out these terroristic acts. All this had been done by others for him. In this sense, the palm was borne by the nationalist elite, first and foremost by that same Eugene Konowaletz whom Interpol had entered in its list of most dangerous criminals for just this kind of "invention." In Europe, Konowaletz had such a reputation as a bandit that the French police had thought it necessary to publish a special bulletin alerting all officers and agents, should Konowaletz ever dare put in an appearance in that country (at that period he was reported to be residing in Germany and later in Switzerland).

UVO's terrorist endeavors were schemed and supervised by Julian Holovynsky. In 1924, on orders from Eugene Konowaletz, he organized into what was termed a "flying brigade." Its UVO thugs killed their prey in order to "obtain money" and to "create among people a state of uncertainty, to intimidate public opinion and to mobilize the Ukrainian community morally."

Being firm in the belief that "nationalism does not limit itself by any 'general human' prescriptions of justice, mercy or humanism *,"

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* This excerpt is from *Natsiokratiya* by M. Stsiborsky, an OUN "ideologue." The author couldn't have possibly suspected that he was dramatically close to the mark. In 1941, in Nazi-occupied Zhitomir — a regional center 85 miles west of Kiev — he and O. Sennyk, another ranking figure of the Melnyk faction, were shot by Bandera's thugs. The killing was done under the guise of solving "organizational matters." It was established, not so long ago, that this terroristic act had been prepared and carried out by M. Lebed, M. Klymyshyn, Ye. Pryshliak and D. Myron.

Shukhevych, as one of the adepts of Holovynsky, carried out his first assignment on October 19, 1926, when he killed school curator Sobinski with a shot from his pistol on a street in Lviv. At that time, the killer was 19 years old but had a far older experience in terms of meanness and treachery. For his crime two innocent persons — Vasyl Atamanchuk and Ivan Verbytsky — were arrested by the police. A sensational trial was held in January of 1928. Both were sentenced to death. Later, the verdict was commuted to life imprisonment. The pre-trial inquest lasted for more than a year. The trial itself was a long one, too, but during all that period neither the OUN leaders nor the "knightly hero" Shukhevych had thought, even for a second, that the two innocents would be punished, perhaps executed, for the crime perpetrated by Roman Shukhevych.

Of the many criminal offences committed by Shukhevych, it seems worth recollecting the robbery of a post office in Horodok at the end of November 1932, when the OUN mafia pocketed 3,232 zloty 15 groszy. The entire operation was masterminded by Roman Shukhevych, a representative of the Ukrainian bourgeois elite of Lviv, and two rank-and-file OUN gorillas — Bilas and Danylyshyn — were brought to the gallows. It is interesting to note that Danylyshyn's legal counsel was Roman's father Stepan Shukhevych. The lawyer did his best to use the defendant's lack of experience and education (Danylyshyn had finished only three grades) to talk him out of giving any evidence in court. In other words, Danylyshyn assumed the entire responsibility, saving

Shukhevych, Jr., although he could have told the court quite a lot. He could have shed light on the mystery surrounding the raids on the Bank Ludowy in Borislav and the post office in Truskavets. Most importantly, however, Danylyshyn could have provided the missing details of the assassination of Tadeusz Holuwka, Ambassador of the Polish *Sejm* (Parliament), because he, Danylyshyn, had taken part in all these criminal acts on orders from Roman Shukhevych. The decision on this terroristic act — the killing of Holuwka — was made by Shukhevych together with Ivan Habrusevych and Zenon Kossak. The whole thing was to be presented as an act of political terror.

And so, thanks to the skilled defense of the legal counsel Stepan Shukhevych and Danylyshyn's silence in court, the bandit Roman Shukhevych managed to escape the well-deserved punishment and OUN succeeded in leeping an expert hatchet man in its ranks. True, Roman Shukhevych later proved that he was worth going to all that trouble, sparing him the gallows. He organized and personally supervised quite a number of terroristic acts under the OUN auspices, aimed against important Polish government officials as well as against Ukrainians, and even against OUN members who had in some or other way showed disobedience to the nationalist elite.

In 1934, for no obvious reasons, Kachmarsky and Yarosh shot Yakiv Bachynsky, a college student, in the park in Striy. Two months later, Mykola Matviychuk beat up Ivan Babiy, principal of a local Ukrainian high school,

using a brass knuckles. And one month later, I. Babiy was killed by Mikhailo Tsar. On April 25, 1935, V. Hereta, an OUN member, shot two other OUNites, Mikhailo Kopach and Maria Kovalyuk, near the village of Bilohorshcha, because they had disagreed with the appointment of Lev Rebet as a local OUN "leader." On April 28, an unidentified OUN member shot his pistol four times, killing Volodymyr Melnyk, also an OUN member, on the crossing of Czarnecki and Kurkova streets. Melnyk's fault was that he had opposed the decision of the nationalist command to murder Kopach and Kovalyuk and had demanded that an action be brought against Hereta for the killing. All these murders betrayed the masterminding touch of that same Roman Shukhevych whose habit it was first to commit a crime and then to hide from responsibility behind someone's back.

Another "heroic deed" of R. Shukhevych — one of the many which are being currently advertised so much by Yaroslav Stetsko in his speeches before Ukrainian emigres in the United States — is Shukhevych's participation in the setting up of the so-called "Karpatska Sich." In 1938, the OUN bosses dispatched 11 experienced thugs to Transcarpathia (Zakarpattya). This "commando unit" included the said Habrusevych and Kossak, also Hasyn, Lopatynsky and others.

Roman Shukhevych was among them, too. The involvement of these "experts on local affairs" in the formation of the notorious "Karpatska Sich" and "Karpatska Ukraina" turned into a bloodshedding adventure, which is the

reason why OUN's "historiographers" tried to persuade the public after the war that the professional killers had made the trip to Transcarpathia "counter to the wise instructions" of the nationalist upper echelons, and that they had done so of their own accord. It is a known fact, however, that OUN elite would have never put up with the slightest digression in interpreting their directives.

This fact is rather convincingly proved by what happened to Kopach, Kovalyuk and V. Melnyk, so one can hardly buy OUN's postwar tales about what actually lay behind the Transcarpathian case .On the other hand, considering that it involved OUN's brass hats rather than soldiers, it becomes clearly apparent that any attempt to explain the Transcarpathian tragedy by the "arbitrary" actions of separate adventurers is abortive. Still, another question arises, a perfectly natural one. What made the nationalists dissociate themselves from their "revolutionary" doings in Transcarpathia so abruptly? The answer is very simple indeed. In planning their misanthropic policy of world supremacy, the Nazi criminals meticulously pigeonholed the destinies of every people. Like the other Slavic *üntermenschen,* the Ukrainians were reduced to slaves in these plans. Their quantity was to be regulated by corresponding ministries and agencies within the Third Reich. The Transcarpathian tragedy became one of the first stages in the "solution" of the "Ukrainian question" by the Nazis (the approach very much resembled the techniques applied to the "Jewish problem"), involving *Abwehr* and SD agents from among the OUN

commando reserve, particularly Roman Shukhevych and the Hungarian fascists under Horthy.

To become convinced that this was really so, it suffices to remind the reader of the fact that the first thing the OUN "experts on local affairs" did after arriving in Transcarpathia was to get in touch with the German consul in Khust. They remained in contact with him, agreed on every action with him and even received small amounts of hardware from him, with which to encourage brainwashed farmers to fight for the "liberation" of their homeland. But when Hitler's satellites — Horthy's fascists — burst in Transcarpathia, all that OUN-leading mob fled to Lviv, leaving to the enemy's mercy those plain ordinary Ukrainian fellows stirred up for struggle but by no means fit for it in terms of armament or organization. Thousands of innocent people died as the horrible result of this "revolutionary" activity of the nationalist "experts on local affairs." In a word, by entrusting their nationalist agens with bringing off this scandalous affair, the *Abwehr* and the SD solved the problem of *Lebensraum* — "living space" — for the Aryan race in Transcarpathia in a remarkably efficient manner.

Should some of the readers have any doubts concerning the provocative and treacherous role played by OUN in general and by Roman Shukhevych in particular in the extermination of Ukrainians in Transcarpathia, we could refer such readers to the testimony given by Major General Stefan Ujsasi, former head of the 2nd Department of the Intelligence and Coun-

terintelligence Service of the Royal Hungarian General Staff.

At the trials in Nuremberg, S. Ujsasi testified that, prior to WWII, Colonel Stefan Oswat, head of the 2nd Department, 8th Army Corps, had closely collaborated with Schtolze, head of the department of the *Abwehr* in Cracow, in recruiting agents. As a result of these joint efforts, General Padagny had had his OUN agents in Chernivtsi, Kolomyia, Stanislav and Lviv, and Colonel Oswat in Tatariv, Rafailove, Kolomyia, Turka, Stary Sambir and Lviv.

Erwin Schtolze also rendered a witness testimony in Nuremberg. Among other things, he stated that before the war he had personally supervised two Ukrainian nationalist agents of the *Abwehr* — A. Melnyk and S. Bandera. This fact alone leaves no room for doubt that the *Abwehr* — or Schtolze, to be precise — served as that thread which guided Ukrainian Nazi puppets like Melnyk, Bandera and their minions to a split within the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. Once again, all this was done in order to trigger off the process of self-destruction of Ukrainians as the Slavic *untermenschen.*

In both cases (i.e., the Transcarpathian tragedy and OUN's split), the *Abwehr's* top hatchet men aimed at the possibility of effectively using the OUN people in exterminating Ukrainians. Their aiming proved effective. Actually, it couldn't have been otherwise, for the Nazis reckoned that OUN had by then accumulated considerable experience in matters pertaining to the annihilation of their own Ukrainian people. They did not forget, for example, that in the fall of 1930 cases of arson and other sabo-

tage had gained in frequency in Polish landlord estates, spreading all over Poland and the Western Ukrainian territories (Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Volyn and Rovno regions), seized by the bourgeois government. For the most part, these crimes were perpetrated by the landowners themselves who thus hoped to get the indemnity. Naturally, the OUN upper echelons couldn't but use these facts for their own end. Various nationalist "leaders" claimed that the arsons were the result of their "revolutionary" actions, which gave the Pilsudski functionaries the excuse to plunge into retributions — "pacifying efforts," as they became officially known — against thousands of innocent Ukrainians who had absolutely nothing to do with OUN. In a communique, issued after this "pacifying" campaign, the OUN chiefs proudly declared; "We have reached our goal..., great moral and material losses have been inflicted on the enemy." Naturally, the OUN bosses have never bothered to think of those many Ukrainians whose lives were wasted as a result of their "political activity." Incidentally, talking of the political effects of the OUN-inspired "pacifying efforts," one should remember that the League of Nations Council considered the question of OUN on January 30, 1932, in Geneva, and condemned it as a terroristic organization. This should be firmly implanted in the minds of all those Western politicians and politicos as they view nationalist crowds gathering in front of the UN Headquarters or hanging around city streets in the United States, Canada, England, France, West Germany and other countries where these nationalists or their pa-

rents found refuge from the just wrath of the Ukrainian people and its retribution for the crimes perpetrated by them on Ukrainian soil.

But let us return to Roman Shukhevych who operated in Transcarpathia under the bandit alias of Shchuka (Pike). As soon as he smelled trouble, he fled to his native Galicia where he carried out another mission of the OUN leadership — and, of course, of the *Abwehr*. This mission, as is now correctly testified to by Yaroslav Stetsko and *Schlach Peremohy,* consisted of preparing OUN "march groups" which, after a course of training under the guidance of Nazi instructors, in the forthcoming war of Nazi Germany against the Soviet Union, were to follow the *Wehrmacht* striking forces on their warpath in the Ukraine. There they were to assist the aggressors in imposing the Nazi "new order." Nazi-drilled OUN thugs were used to man the *Nachtigall* Battalion in which Roman Shukhevych served as a *hauptmann* — captain, or *sotnyk,* as the nationalists write now. For reasons best known to themselves, they "forget" to mention that it was their "nightingales" (*Nachtigall* means "nightingale") who, led by Roman Shukhevych, massacred the leading intellectuals of Lviv in one night, slaughtering scientists of world acclaim only because they were Jews or Poles.

Listing R. Shukhevych's "merits," Stetsko noted that he was a co-author of the ill-famed Act of June 30 and a deputy to the War Minister in his, Stetsko's, "government." The fact that even after the publication of this Act Roman Shukvevych remained *hauptmann* at the *Nachtigall* Battalion is an additional evidence

that the Banderites in general and the "Premier" in particular lie when they allege that the Act of June 30 manifested OUN's resistance against the occupiers, and that some of the OUNites, particularly Yaroslav Stetsko, were punished by the Nazis because of it.

Yaroslav Stetsko claims that Roman Shukhevych was the creator and head of the General Secretariat of the so-called Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council (UGVR). Its "Foreign Representation" currently collaborates so actively with the special agencies of the U.S. administration via its top functionaries Lebed, Prokop, Kaminsky, Markus and many others. Speaking of UGVR as yet another Ukrainian nationalist setup, people who closely follow public appearances by the OUN bigshots should pay attention to the fact that these functionaries are simply unable to provide truthful information about certain aspects of their own activity in the past. (Thus, hardly any of them would tell you how they went about drawing up the said Act of June 30.)

There are two other OUN documents which are respectfully — and with the pompousness intrinsic to the nationalists — entitled the "Platform" and the "Universal" of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council. These documents give rise to as much scheming and lying as the Act of June 30. Officially, the "Platform" and the "Universal" were released by the nationalist publishers in July of 1944. However, the German text of both was recently discovered among the captured documents of a Nazi administrative body whose bureaucratic interests were quite remote from those of general his-

tory but were very close to those of organizing and conducting espionage work. Both documents are dated June 1944.

Perhaps, numerous OUN "scholars" from UGVR, or even Lebed himself, could tell those taking an interest in the history of their activity exactly why these documents, which belong to the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council, allegedly set up by the nationalists themselves, were written in German one month before they were translated into Ukrainian to be understood by the entire community?

This is a rather serious question, for it brings forth another one which is no less interesting: Could it be that this UGVR was founded by the *Abwehr* or the SD in order to further use OUN in the interests of German Nazism, but without Hitler? We will probably use some other opportunity to discuss at length whether or not the question of what really lay behind the very appearance of UGVR is rational. Here and now let us try to shed light on the activity of Roman Shukvevych, this "creator" of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and, in the words of Yaroslav Stetsko, "the layer of the foundation of the double-front war of the OUNites against Germany and Russia."

In order to show the reader how false the allegations about OUN's — specifically UPA's — "struggle" against the Nazis are, let us quote from a document which is dated April 22, 1944 — two months before the appearance of the "Platform" and "Universal" of UGVR. Complete with all the "accessories" inherent to any bureaucratic paper of this kind, including the seal *Geheim* ("Secret"), it was sent to Ber-

lin, care of SS *Gruppenfuhrer,* Lieutenant General of the Police Müller, and to Cracow, addressed to *SS Oberfuhrer,* Major General of the Police Birkamp, representative of the SD (Nazi security service). In both cases the message bore the significant inscription "confidential," stressing its secrecy. This document is a shorthand account of *Obersturmbahnfuhrer* Witiska, commandant of the police and security service of the District of Galicia, of a meeting between the commanding officers of the *Abwehrkommando* forces of the "South" Group of Troops, then stationed in the outskirts of Lviv.

From this document it is obvious that the only point on the agenda of that meeting dealt with "implementing contacts between UPA and the *Wehrmacht,* the police and bodies of civilian administration." In the very first paragraph Witiska states that "as has already been reported previously, the collaboration of the *Wehrmacht* — in the first place the *Abwehr* — with UPA will be further maintained." Further on, the author sums up the points of view of the participants in the meeting concerning this subject.

Lieutenant Colonel Lindhardt, commander of the *Abwehrkommando-101,* for example, stated that "it was virtually impossible to commit prisoners of war to cooperating with the Germans," so he saw the only possibility of conducting intelligence activity against the Soviet Army by using the good offices of UPA men. He complained of the futility of the attempts to recruit Ukrainian agents even from among those affiliated with "Ukrainian auxiliary committees" who were not OUN members. In view

of all this, Lindhardt tried to convince the other participants in the meeting that his intelligence activity would be unthinkable without contacts with UPA. He explained that UPA supplied him with an exceptional amount of intelligence data which were good enough for use by troops in action. Stressing that in some cases Ukrainian bands (this was exactly what he called the UPA units) did fight Soviet Army units together with the *Wehrmacht,* he concluded that UPA units were of invaluable help to the *Wehrmacht* in separate areas of the front.

Lieutenant Colonel Seliger, CO of the *Abwehrkommando-202,* almost repeated the aforementioned German officer in his speech, but was somewhat more specific on the role played by Roman Shukhevych in the collaboration between OUN-UPA and the Nazis. He put it point blank that he could fulfill his mission — "to carry out acts of subversion behind the rear lines of the Soviet Army" — only with UPA's help, because "the Ukrainian nationalists are the only enemy of Soviet power in the territory freed from the occupiers." Due to this fact, the *Wehrmacht,* Seliger stressed, is interested in strengthening UPA by supplying it with weapons and ammunition, as well as by granting military training to "corresponding contingents."

Seliger told the meeting that he had long been using Galician members of UPA, putting them through special drilling, later to parachute them or send them across the front line to the Soviet Army rear. Seliger was conducting this particular work with the knowledge and consent of the Berlin command and had for a long

time been in contact with Roman Shukhevych who had already placed at his, Seliger's, disposal several prospective trainees. Seliger also informed that in the near future he, with the help of the *Wehrmacht* units, would send one hundred UPA commandos to the section of the front between Stanislav and Delyatyn. These bandits had been procured by Roman Shukhevych and armed by Seliger for just this raid.

Here we might as well stop listing all the evidence of lies, by Yaroslav Stetsko and OUN, concerning with whom and against who the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army fought in the years of the Second World War just as we might content ourselves with what we have thus far established as facts exposing the antipopular essence of Ukrainian nationalism in general and its "great martyrs" in particular.

For an unbiased reader, the facts provided above more than sufficiently help in arriving at the correct conclusion that the Ukrainian nationalists have nothing in common with the Ukrainian people which, being an inseparable component of the Soviet nation, fought, together with the American and other Allied Nations, this brown plague of humanity — Nazism, and then judged it in Nuremberg.

It was nothing but hatred for the Ukrainian bourgeois nationalists on the part of the people that cut the ground under their feet. They had no place in the Ukraine and were forced to run away to the West to hide from the just retaliation of their own nation.

OLEXANDER VASYLENKO.

ANATOLE BILOTSERKIVSKY: ONCE A NAZI POLICEMAN, NOW A "BENEFACTOR"

Now and then the name of Anatole Bilotserkivsky appears in some of the columns of nationalist periodicals. He is portrayed as a respectable member of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association. According to these newspapers, he is a "noted worker in the vast public and religious field" who "combines in himself the sympathies and cooperation of undeniable worth and importance of various organizations." As a third deputy to the chairman and number one organizer of UFA-Canada, A. Bilotserkivsky advertises the organization he represents, urging people to join UFA which, in his words, is meant to grant "moral and material help" to those who need it. According to Bilotserkivsky, he is especially concerned about "the crippled and the sick," and also about the younger generation. This gentleman is proud to declare that UFA provides scholarships and organizes "educational, artistic and sports undertakings" for its students during the summer season, etc.

In a word, the way this elderly gentleman is presented, he is all but an angel in human form. At least such may be the impression of a person who knows nothing about this character except that he, in the words of *Narodna Volya* and other such nationalist newspapers, is a man "who thinks like a statesman."

In reality, however, the respectable, almost angel-like front of the UFA "benefactor" of Anton Shpak who, while in "exile," took the

alias of Anatole Bilotserkivsky, conceals a man with a remarkably dark, blood-covered past.

In order to reveal the true beastly face of this character before people currently listening to his hypocritically pious verbiage, *Visti z Ukraini* published the article "The Two Faces of Shpak-Bilotserkivsky" in March of 1977 [see also *Their True Face* (Part Three)]. Old-timers in Bila Tserkva remember Anton Shpak well. The said article is about how this Nazi lackey tortured and shot innocent civilian residents of this Ukrainian town during the Nazi occupation.

We mention this article because in 1979 a Bila Tserkva District newspaper carried a new article about the crimes of Anton Shpak, formerly a Ukrainian Nazi policeman and currently a nationalist "benefactor."

"After the publication of the first article," writes the author, M. Sribnyak, "the door to my apartment has never closed and my phone has never stopped ringing." The following are some of the stories told this journalist by people who visited or rang him up.

"Shpak raped and then shot my younger sister who lived with our grandmother. He personally visited apartments to find whoever had anything to do with former (Soviet) activists. He threw them in jail and then shot them. He must be meted out a most severe punishment," said a woman named Dinaver in agitation.

"You ought to have written that Shpak was a robber, too. He took all valuables from city residents and sent them somewhere," informed a man by the name of Zabihailo.

I met with Yevchuk, a person who knew the Nazi toady well enough to tell me that Shpak had warned him that he, Yevchuk, had to get registered at the labor exchange and find himself a job. By a decree of the occupation authorities, all those who stayed unemployed would be sent to work in Germany. Shpak had also boasted that he was searching apartments, looking for persons fit for work in the Third Reich. According to him, one girl had hid in a stove but he had spotted her there and sent her to Germany together with others.

The traitor had also told Yevchuk that as a deputy to the CO of the police force he enjoyed a very good reputation with the Gestapo and had taken part in interrogating communists and Jews. Thus, there had been the Lynnykov family living on Chervonoarmiyska St. opposite the old groats mill. In 1942, Anton Shpak had personally arrested this family on suspicion of aid to the partisans. He had escorted them to the local Gestapo precinct where he took part in questioning the captives and then participated in shooting this family.

While creating a loud publicity for their Ukrainian Fraternal Association, types like Anton Shpak never fail to concentrate on the topic of "liberation of the Ukrainian people." This kind of "liberation" has been practiced before. More than one generation of the current residents of Bila Tserkva still vividly remember the "liberation campaign" in which Shpak-Bilotserkivsky was most directly involved.

Today, former Nazi policemen and terrorists like Shpak-Bilotserkivsky do their utmost to

rank as tutors of the younger Ukrainian generation abroad.

"Batky!" (Parents or Fathers!) is how *Svoboda* of the Ukrainian National Association starts its message of desperate appeal to the older generation of Ukrainian emigres. "Commit your children, while they are still young, to the Ukrainian National Association, this oldest, largest and richest Ukrainian nationalist organization beyond the frontiers of your Motherland. You will thus ensure them a better future."

But what is this "better future" all about, as promised the younger generation by Anton Shpak and "benefactors" like him? What makes them so sure they are the ones to teach their children and grandchildren and those of others? What can they teach them? Hatred? Treachery? Readiness to lower oneself to perpetrating crimes? Weren't these teachers among those who trained the two ill-famed OUN "emissaries" Dobosh and Klymchuk who were brainwashed by nationalist propaganda before they were sent to the Ukraine to conduct criminal, provocative work there?

All these questions are answered in the affirmative, the more so that Anton-Anatole Shpak-Bilotserkivsky, this respectable rapist, killer and robber, was among these "teachers" even though now this war criminal is portrayed as being genuinely concerned with aiding "the crippled and ailing members" and with providing "scholarships and scholarship-type assistance to studying youth," doing all this with a Judas "all-forgiving" smile on his lips.

HRIHORIY MALYSHENKO.

"THE LEAGUE OF UKRAINE'S ENEMIES" *

A regular congress of the so-called League of Ukraine's Liberation (LVU) was held in the Canadian city of Toronto in the spring of 1981. It set up a Committee for the Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Act of June 30, 1941, Restoring the Ukrainian State in Lviv.

To a fresh reader, the above may well sound like a doctor's account of a madman's raving dream. Still, this is exactly what some of the nationalist periodicals feed their Ukrainian readers abroad day in and day out.

Now let us see what is behind the pretentious name of this League and its bombastic plans and appeals.

LVU was founded in Canada in early post-war years. Its membership then consisted of surviving Ukrainian nationalist servitors of the Nazis who had made it across the ocean after the end of WWII. This Bandera-minded organization presently unites the right extremist circles of the reactionary emigration which almost openly propagandizes Nazi ideology. It is true, however, that the modern times make it imperative that the adherents of Bandera hide their misanthropic convictions, but they mostly do so for appearance's sake. In fact, every issue of the Banderite periodicals carries a direct or in-

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* Here the author resorts to a play on words. LVU is known in the Ukrainian community abroad as the acronym for the nationalist *Liha Vyzvolennia Ukrainy* — League of Ukraine's Liberation, but LVU can also be deciphered as *Liha Vorohiv Ukrainy* — League of Ukraine's Enemies.

direct appeal for deepening international tensions even further, for unleashing another world war. Their publications offer a slanderously distorted view of the international situation and the Soviet Union's peace initiatives, meant to preserve and stabilize world peace. They come out with various kinds of fabricated data concerning the situation inside the USSR.

In doing all this, the Banderite propaganda machine follows the worst examples given by the yellow press in the West, lowering itself to an even greater baseness, utilizing what can only be described as sheer nonsense. Banderite periodicals accept "information" which their own editors are eventually forced to recognize as hearsay. They publish primitive verse which can only be a product of senile imagination — something like the pipedreams of "The Old Man Omelko." They seldom miss a chance to cast aspersions on whoever dares utter a word of truth against them. "It is easy to be the editor of some of the newspapers representing our biggest national party in emigration," wrote the nationalist magazine *Novi Dni* in June of 1979, meaning the Banderite periodicals. "Despite party censorship, they feel free to write the worst of nonsense, provided they have made sure that this nonsense wear at least some patriotic attire."

This *Novi Dni* criticism in the address of the Bandera camp is neither something exceptional nor accidental. The Banderites' desire to seize key positions in emigre life come what may, subjugating all the other "independent" parties, as well as the Banderite methods of struggle

against their "ideological" enemies, currently arouse protest and opposition in all nationalist communities. In fact, one will hardly find a single Ukrainian nationalist group in the West which hasn't brought Bandera's adherents under sharp attacks. In the course of this intestine strife and struggle for influence within the nationalist camp, the leaders of the Ukrainian reactionary emigre centers hurl pailfuls of dirt at each other, exposing shameful facts from their criminal anti-Soviet activities.

The Bandera affiliates are accused of totalitarianism, of trying to proliferate "slogans that are long discredited and discarded," and of sowing seeds of "inter-party discord, fighting for influence in some or other independent establishments, trying to outsmart one another in winning 'representation' privileges." At the beginning of 1980, *The New Pathway* wrote that all these fake patriots of the Liberation Front propagandize a "permanent revolution," doing so only in words, whereas in deeds they are sowing discord and harmful misunderstanding in what the newspaper called a "community in diaspora."

Later, that same periodical noted that the hysterical anti-Soviet outbursts of the Bandera camp have brought neither glory nor any use whatsoever to their people. On the contrary, *The New Pathway* continued, even today these people have to show red faces to foreigners because of their own diplomacy. Having proclaimed themselves the only true heralds of the "idea of revolutionary liberation of the Ukraine from Bolshevism," the Banderites stepped on the road of treason, venality and close collabo-

ration with German Nazism even before WWII, headed by their "Fuhrer" Stephen Bandera and his henchman Yaroslav Stetsko. During the war, OUN's service for the Nazis revealed itself in its full glaring scandalousness. It was with the approval of the Nazis that Ya. Stetsko staged the farce of proclaiming the "Ukrainian State in the Western Ukrainian lands" on June 30, 1941, having arrived in Lviv, bringing up the rear of the German occupiers together with the ill-famed *Nachtigall* Battalion. The nationalist "king for a day" and his mob even now willingly quote from what they call the "historically significant document of June 30," only they constantly forget to cite one particular passage from this "document" which reads, "Glory to the heroic German Army and its Fuhrer Adolf Hitler!" So this was what "glorious anniversary" the LVU leaders celebrated in 1981 and for what purpose they set up their special "committee."

There isn't a single sober-minded Ukrainian living abroad who has any illusions as to what was really behind the Banderite foolish venture of proclaiming the "Ukrainian State" during the Nazi occupation. This interlude and Stetsko's "arrest" by the Germans (when he was "locked up" in a plush villa near Berlin) are only ridiculed by different nationalist authors.

Talking of the Bandera camp, yet another fact is very characteristic of this racket, namely when they murdered their party rivals from among Melnyk's affiliates. This fact has long ceased to be a mystery among the vastest strata of Ukrainians abroad. At that period the Melnykites were forced to recruit what became

known as the "Ukrainian Self-Defense Legion" to save their skin lest the Banderites "shoot them to the last man." The nationalist press has already published a number of materials containing witness accounts of "horrible fratricidal killings" perpetrated by Bandera's thugs in the Western Ukrainian lands during the war.

Thus, in the spring of 1978, nationalist editions carried the testimony of M. Pihulyak about mass terror as organized and upheld by the Banderites. "The glorious SB (the Ukr. acronym for *Sluzhba Bezpeky* — the formidable Bandera's "Security Service")," wrote Pihulyak, "began ruthlessly to punish dissenters. never bothering to put them on any kind of trial. This was how the (victims') native land, the homes of their parents and those of their own ceased to serve as any protection." The witnesses affirm that the Banderites killed not only their party opponents but also the "elderly people, children and clergymen."

M. Kondzelsky, a Ukrainian-born Canadian, wrote that when one read such a testimony one became "afraid, not knowing how to greet whom: maybe the hand one was shaking sincerely was stained by the blood of its owner's innocent brothers. In short," concluded Kondzelsky, "sharing membership of, say, UCC, WCFU or any other organization with such people is unthinkable."

Still, the fact remains that nationalist associations, primarily those of the Bandera camp, are that midst where people whose past can never be described as sinless have found refuge and an apt opportunity to put their "abilities" to good use. Among them are persons

whose conscience and hands are indeed washed in their brothers' blood.

Thus, there lives a businessman in Canada whose name is Dmytro Kupiak. At present, he resides in Mississauga and owns a restaurant. At one time he had a flourishing business in Toronto but had to sell it and leave the city. He is that same Dmytro Kupiak who was once seen washing blood off some money, rinsing the banknotes in a puddle by the side of a road, money which he had taken from a man he had killed.

What made Kupiak take to his heels from Toronto was the booklet *The Day of Reckoning* (Kamenyar Publishers, Lviv, 1970). One is horrified, even sickened, turning the pages of this publication which contains data from the court file on the members of the *boyivka* unit of the Banderite "Security Service" (SB), headed by the then chief hangman Slavko Veslyar — or Kley — both being the aliases of Dmytro Kupiak.

This gang left behind mutilated bodies and smoking ruins. Among their hair-raising atrocities are mass killings of civilians in Radekhiv, Busk, some villages in Lviv Region, almost 200 peaceful residents shot, garroted, butchered, hanged and burned alive, tortured to death in the villages of Pobuzhany, Yablunivka, Kupche, Humnyska, Lisok and Verbliany (Busk District), also in the villages of Bohdanivka and Zamostia (Zolochiv District). Their prey mostly consisted of women, elders and children, many children! 12-year-old Mariyka Makhovska, 14-year-old Petro Chuchman, 13-year-old Nadia Dizhak, 10-month-old Zinoviy Vuitsyk...

The Day of Reckoning has 150 pages and each offers names of people slaughtered by these bandits — wives, fathers and children of Soviet Army servicemen, Soviet village activists or simply possible witnesses of Banderite atrocities. The blood-covered track of Kley's thugs ran from village to village, from home to home. They mastered their fratricidal techniques to a horrifying perfection which made one's hair stand on end. In many respects they surpassed even their teachers — Nazi hangmen. No wonder that the words "Banderite" and "bandit" have meant the same thing to the Ukrainian people since that terrifying period.

In the course of investigation it was established that, apart from killing and robbing, Kupiak's gang was also guilty of burning down three villages — Ostriv (Sokal District), Adamy (Busk District) — both in Lviv Region — and Posadow (currently in Poland).

Five *boyivka* members under the command of Kupiak-Kley were brought to court but the chief hangman managed to flee to Canada with his loot.

Even though the appearance of *The Day of Reckoning* forced Kupiak to change residence, today he continues to lead a prosperous and carefree life. In 1980, the Bandera-minded weekly *Homin Ukrainy* informed that this killer and hangman was elected head of the LVU branch in Mississauga. And well he might, because a nationalist organization calling for drowning one half of mankind in its own blood for the sake of reaching some "supreme goal"— namely, for the establishment of the Nazi dictatorship in the Ukraine — should have an ex-

perienced bandit and murderer like Kupiak among its key figures.

Dmytro Kupiak is not an exceptional personality in the Banderite league. Serhiy Kysliuk, his worthy comrade-in-arms, is a member of the LVU leadership in Niagara Falls. During WWII he was personally responsible for the torturing and killing of a number of Soviet citizens in Volyn.

Among other LVU functionaries of the upper echelons — for types like Kupiak and Kysliuk represent the lower order — is the highly colorful figure of Sviatoslav Vasyl Frolyak, known in Canada as Stanley Frolik, a lawyer.

During WWII, S. Frolyak maintained direct contacts with Western intelligence services and it was through their good offices that in 1945-1946 he was among those who found a way on top of what became known as the Central Ukrainian Aid Committee. He was appointed Secretary General. All his plans went down the drain, however, when ill luck brought to Europe one Panchuk from Canada, another contender for the nationalist "laurels." Panchuk made public all of Frolyak's sins — his swindling, "political black marketeering, building a fortune on the suffering of the Ukrainian people," excessive drinking, indiscriminate love affairs, appropriation of public money, and a lot of others. Eventually, S. Frolyak was ousted of the Committee.

S. Frolyak ranks among the founding members of ABN — the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations — but he couldn't get any of the key positions there, either.

His quest for money and publicity led S. Frolyak to join the Ukrainian National Federation (UNF) of the Melnyk camp. Before long, however, he crossed the line and affiliated himself with the Banderites, becoming the editor of *Homin Ukrainy*. He was also appointed as second in command at the so-called Provisional Central Organizing Bureau of the League of Ukraine's Liberation. In a word, he was among the political midwives of this organization. And again angry fate gave him a sardonic smile as Frolyak was never elected to any of LVU's key posts.

Stanley Frolik also had a go at big-time Canadian — rather than Ukrainian nationalist — politics. In 1953 and in 1962 he ran for candidacy at the Canadian Federal Parliament. Despite all his bombastic anti-Soviet phraseology which would, or so he hoped, win him a political career, backed up by the then ongoing anti-communist hysteria (the latter had been unleashed in the Western countries during the cold war), both campaigns proved a shattering failure.

His defeat by M. Plawiuk, head of the Melnyk faction, during the elections to the governing bodies of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians (WCFU) and by the businessman I. Novosad during the campaign for the election of new leaders of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee (UCC) came as a traditional, even logical consequence.

Several decades have already elapsed since the end of WWII. A lot of changes have taken place all over the world in the meantime. The international climate was registering a definite

degree of improvement, as were political, economic, cultural and scientific contacts among countries with different sociopolitical systems. The Banderite "knights of cloak and dagger," nevertheless, stuck to their misanthropic slogans and treacherous methods of struggle.

At present, these "armchair revolutionaries," as they are known among the emigres, come out with the same utopian slogan, calling for an "immediate overthrow" of the Soviet Union by means of warfare. At the same time, they lay claim to supremacy within the nationalist community the way they did thirty or forty years ago. Today, endorsing LVU's plans, the League higher-ups attach major importance to its counterbalancing the promotion of contacts between Ukrainians living abroad and the Soviet Ukraine. These leaders also stress the vitality of stepping up anti-Soviet campaigning. In a word, this nationalist organization might as well be called the "League of Ukraine's Enemies."

Be as it may, for the Banderite functionaries of LVU the times when their empty verbiage could win the trust of at least part of the Ukrainians abroad are long past. Outwardly, OUN under the leadership of Yaroslav Stetsko "shows quite a bit of dynamics even today," writes Myroslav Styranka, a Melnykite journalist, in *Ukrainske Slovo*. "However, this is only unsubstantiated revolutionary bombast which relies on the already discarded world conceptual slogans of the 'men of the Thirties'; it is a far cry from what is actually happening in the Ukraine and it is being made increasingly 'emigre'." Banderite ideology, as well as their methods of

translating it into life, are, in the opinion of Styranka, an embodiment of the "almost complete political marasmus of the emigres "which has presently befallen all the nationalist political groups.

HEORHIY TERNOVSKY.

STEPHEN ROMANIUK: A PHILANTHROPIST?

Not so long ago, a Canadian newspaper carried a photo of a smug businessman signing a check for 879 dollars for the benefit of the mentally retarded.

Philanthropy? No, just an act of sober calculation. The man on the photograph isn't simply a businessman but also a hardened Ukrainian nationalist of the Bandera stock. His name is Stephen Romaniuk. In 1972 he headed a department of the League of Ukraine's Liberation. In 1974-1976, he was the secretary of one of LVU's departments and in 1977-1978 he was the secretary of a department of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee. Quite an active figure he was.

His posing for the camera as a philanthropic benefactor, however, is sheer bluff. S. Romaniuk needed that photo in order to present, to the credulous Ukrainian Canadians, a somewhat "sweetened" picture of himself. He would thus find it easier to use them to build his own fortune. The 879 dollars he donated to a human cause was only a drop in the ocean of money flowing into his own purse, an ocean nourished by some of his fellow Canadians who still believe him to be a patriot — something Roma-

niuk has long sought to gain in their eyes. Too bad all these credulous people couldn't see his true face when Romaniuk and his Nazi fellow hangmen raged in Tlumach District, Ivano-Frankivsk Region. If they did, they would have cursed this murderer the way people still curse him in his home village of Petriv.

Stephen Romaniuk hates to recall that period. He is afraid that someone might have a glimpse of what is inside his soul which is pitch dark with the suffering he and the Nazis had once meted out for his native land, and the people.

We must shed light on this darkness, because this self-styled Ukrainian Nazi dignitary must be exposed, and because people must know the truth about him.

In the Ukraine, Stephen Romaniuk was born into a family which wasn't poor by any standards. When the boy reached school age, his parents sent him to a private Ukrainian high college in Horodenets. There, before long, the young student Stephen Romaniuk got the drift of what his professors and the Uniate priest were trying to instill in the students. He partook of the nationalist spirit emanating from them.

In September 1939, the doors of schools, institutes and universities were opened wide for the children of the working people in Galicia. The undereducated Romaniuk, Jr. wasn't happy at all to observe all this progress, brought about as it was to be rejoiced by all of the toiling masses. He went deep underground where he would rave and rant to his heart's content. Still, he did more than that. He rallied all those who were not satisfied by what was happening

into a Banderite organization. While doing all this, Stephen Romaniuk waited eagerly for the coming of the Nazis.

But when Nazi Germany invaded the Soviet Union in 1941, Stephen Romaniuk didn't wait to see the Nazis occupy Petriv. The first Nazi planes had hardly started howling over this village when the local nationalist riffraff, organized by Stephen Romaniuk, were given free rein. The thugs raided the nearby villages, smashing windows in the homes of Soviet activists, murdering innocent people.

Mikhailo Spetruk, resident of the village of Sokyrchyn, recalls that the Banderite killers whipped him so it was a miracle he remained alive. His only fault was that he had been a collective farm team leader. The gorillas would have killed him if they hadn't supposed that he was already dead. Mikhailo Spetruk regained consciousness at night and managed to hide somewhere...

Not one of the residents of Petriv can remember Romaniuk with a kind word.

"He showed much reverence toward the people who wielded power and wouldn't even talk to the common folk. He displayed a similar attitude even to those with whom he had once gone to school," is what Petro Kubyk and Vasyl Fedorchak have to say about Stephen Romaniuk.

It was because Romaniuk had collaborated with the Nazi police that he was not sent to Germany for slave labor. Instead, he was given a comfortable post in the office of the so-called "selected community" in Nezvyske. In that body of occupation authority he worked under the

guidance of Mikhailo Kozak, a well-known Nazi toady and his future father-in-law. The latter was the village magistrate in that community. His collaboration with the occupiers is corroborated by his brother Fedir, currently a resident of Petriv who works as an assistant veterinarian on the local collective farm.

At that period Romaniuk sat in his office and drew up lists of those who he thought should be sent for slave labor to Germany, like, for example, Petro Kubyk. He also wrote out Nazi occupation passports — *kenkarten.* He issued them the way he pleased, giving them to people he liked and denying them to those he didn't favor. In the passport of Dmytro Behin, for instance, he wrote that the bearer was a Pole, although Romaniuk was well aware that this particular entry was utterly false and placed Behin in danger. As a result, Behin miraculously escaped confinement in a Nazi death camp. He was brought to Germany as a slave laborer and had to write Romaniuk, begging him for another document. Do you think he received it? Behin's old mother had to work for ten days on the fields of a Uniate priest to win his solicitation to get her son the necessary document.

Romaniuk stayed up nights to attend to his sinister affairs. The archives preserve the testimony of Varvara Kornuta, a resident of Obertyn who in 1944 was temporarily evacuated to the village of Petriv. She told Soviet authorities that one night several Banderite thugs, among them Stephen Romaniuk, burst in her home. They grabbed everything they found and beat up the tenants only because her son had declin-

ed to follow Romaniuk's "advice" to join the local nationalist band. Romaniuk's hands cannot be cleansed of the blood of all the innocent people whose death is on his conscience.

At present, Stephen Romaniuk does his best to disprove his involvement in that nationalist gang which terrorized the innocent population. Perhaps this is why he tries to win popularity by such philanthropic gestures, as though telling people, "See how kind-hearted I am, never sparing anything toward a noble end."

Those who know Romaniuk's past do not believe in his "conversion," because a person whose hands are still wet with the blood of innocent fellow countrymen is simply unable to display any genuine probity. Even the dollars he so generously donated to unhappy, sick people were not earned by him but by those whom he ruthlessly exploits.

Evidence of the crimes perpetrated by Stephen Romaniuk in Ivano-Frankivsk Region during the temporary Nazi occupation is not only in the memory of old-timers in Petriv but also in archival documents. The following is a testimony rendered by Ivan Parashchuk, formerly an active member of the OUN gang; "Stepan Romaniuk was an activist of OUN. He was constantly in touch with me." This is also corroborated by another former OUNite, Stepan Kubiyovych.

Needless to say, Stephen Romaniuk hates the idea of spending the rest of his life in a strange land as an ordinary tramp without kith and kin. His hands, sticky with human blood, have become expert in counting money he gets for free. He doesn't care if it is dollars or marks so

long as he gets the dough the easy way. And so he constantly masks, desperately trying to push his way to the trough feeding various nationalist "leaders." Romaniuk's "philanthropy," however, cannot prevent all honest Ukrainian Canadians from learning the truth about his past as a mean traitor to his own people.

DMYTRO VERNYUK

SIGNING HIS OWN DEATH VERDICT

Sometimes a journalist travelling on a professional assignment has quite unexpected and interesting meetings and writes things down in his notebook which may eventually start stories unpredicted in any tentative plans.

Actually, this was what happened when I and a group of other journalists went to Radekhiv (formerly Lopatyn) District to collect data for stories about people who had taken part in the establishment of the first collective farms there. The name of one such veteran was Makar Ishchenko. He had been among the first chairmen of the village Soviet.

Already retired, this man was still full of youthful energy and enthusiasm. The way he talked, he must have talked like that back in 1944 when he had first appeared in Radekhiv District.

Everything which is now the pride of the District was created before his very eyes. He recalls how the first collective farms were set up and peacetime construction organized. Those were difficult times. One had to learn to work

and even live in a new manner. This process of reconstruction would have been much easier if it hadn't been for the sinister shadows which time and again materialized to remind people of that trying period which had already become part of history.

Talking about those years, Ishchenko recalls one evening when he saw the nationalist bandits murder Borutsky, divisional inspector of the militia, and Serhiyenko, director of the club in the village of Nyvytsi. Ishchenko stayed alive by sheer chance. He remembers many other victims of the OUN killers such as the Komsomol member Kateryna Borutska, Mandryk, worker of the District Finance Department, Medzyak, Chairman of the Board of the collective farm in the village of Vebykhy.

Later, in the village of Kustyn, we met with two collective farmers, Hanna Havor and Kateryna Khomych. The OUNites had murdered their parents as active organizers of the first collective farms. Many other participants and witnesses of the first *kolkhozes* told us about the atrocities of the nationalists.

It was thus we gathered material on the crimes of the OUN cutthroats in Radekhiv District. Two of the nationalists — Tarnavsky and Yuzvak — were most often mentioned by witnesses.

These two hangmen from Lopatyn are still vividly remembered by people in neighboring villages and even now people shadder at this memory. Both are cursed by their own people and we would never rake up the past just to mention their names. The reason is different.

Now and then attempts are made across the ocean to bring OUN's deeds to public view in a

new light, to whitewash those who turned traitor to their Motherland and then fled overseas, fearing responsibility for their crimes. Of course, nothing is ever said about how these criminals shot people in the back, slaughtered civilians and carried out numerous terroristic acts. However, eyewitnesses and documents from the captured archives of the bandits testify that these monsters in human form stopped at nothing in their animal hatred of Soviet power which had brought the working masses of the Western Ukraine the long-awaited liberation.

On the evening, Makar Ishchenko recalled during our meeting, Serhiyenko and Borutsky were murdered by thugs from Tarnavsky's nationalist gang. This is corroborated by documents found in a bunker not far from the village of Pidmonastyriok. One such document is a regular report, dated June 3, 1948, and signed by the leader of the nationalist *provid* (here: local section, division or department). The report states, in part, that two activists "were liquidated on the evening of May 3 on the premises of the Village Soviet in Nyvytsi."

At that period Petro Tarnavsky was the liason officer, under the alias of Hora, of the chief of the OUN District "Security Service" (SB). He proved so diligent and resourceful in carrying out his duties that before long his name became a synonym of death.

Tarnavsky and his like built their activity on the principle of ruthless terror and intimidation against the local population. Here is another regular "report" of the bandits, quoted in full; "The following persons were liquidated without interrogation: Vasyl Bondar, born 1923 in the

village of Lisov, Busk District, Lviv Region, Ukrainian by nationality, uneducated, single, social status: peasant; Yeva Petryka, b. 1919, in the v. of Lisov, Busk District, Lviv Region, Ukrainian by nationality, uneducated, single, status: peasant. These persons were liquidated without prior questioning, because the interrogation was done by people who were incompetent as interrogators and who had no experience in the skill of questioning in general."

It would be hard to find a more horrifying form of gangsterism. Why all these innocent people were killed? The above "report" provides no reasons whatsoever. Maybe, they were murdered because they hadn't been too happy to meet the "guests from the forest" or simply because they had happened to be among all the others the nationalists had rounded up and found "guilty"? The two victims mentioned above are only a miserable part of the dramatically long list of people put to death by Hora's OUN professional killers. There are so many other such "reports," "statements" and "case accounts," drawn up by the nationalists, all of which are documents marked by hair-raising bluntness and cynicism!

The OUNites also ruthlessly punished whoever made up his mind to leave the gang. "09/18/48. Liquidated Semen Boyarchuk, b. 1924, the v. of Kustyn, Lopatyn District, Lviv Region, Ukrainian by n., education: 7 grades, married, occupation: tailor. When arrested, refused to let himself be trussed up and began to shout. The commotion attracted his wife who came running with their child and began shouting herself. The shouting was joined in by her

relatives and neighbors. Since the operations group was already in the village and it was a moonlit night, he was shot on the scene of arrest."

Tarnavsky is one of the nationalists who personally carried out such executions, because this type of activity fully conformed to his views as a traitor.

With the coming of the Nazis, Tarnavsky quickly got into a policeman's uniform. This future Hora walked the streets with a haughty air, swinging his whip lazily and casting suspicious glances at passers-by, searching for the faces on which he had spotted an expression of joy on that September morning of 1939 when reunification had finally come to Radekhiv District. He served for the Nazis until 1944 when it dawned on him that he would soon have to answer for his crimes. It was then Petro Tarnavsky changed his identity and became Hora — one of the most active participants in the nationalist underground network in Radekhiv District.

He turned up in neighboring villages together with Hrihoriy Yuzvak, head of the local OUN *provid* from 1945 till 1947. Yuzvak also liked the sight of human blood. The mere mention of Soviet power sent him in a fury and he ordered to kill all suspected of any sympathy for it. He didn't hesitate to murder his own brother, Mykola, when in 1945 he decided to give himself up to the Soviet militia.

The captured nationalist archives leave no room for doubt as to the methods and content of the activity of the nationalist bands. The following is an excerpt from the Chapter "Our

Actions" in the so-called General Reports covering Lopatyn and Radekhiv districts.

"07/12/48. The insurgents (as the Banderites called themselves — **S.H.**) destroyed the collective farm in the villages of Rudenko, Kustyn and Khmilno. During the action in the v. of Rudenko, collective-farm structures were burned down and members of Soviet spy-fighting squads disarmed; Krylov, head of the District Finance Department, and Rudenko, senior zootechnician, were killed. In the v. of Kustyn collective-farm structures were burned down, two collective-farm initiators were liquidated, among them chairman of the Village Soviet. In the v. of Khmlino, one collective-farm shed was burned down (no other collective-farm buildings were found). Propaganda work was done among the residents who were also given anti-collective-farm literature and taught appropriate slogans.

"09/20/48. The insurgents dispersed a dance party in the village of Baryliv. The initiators of this gathering were caned and the rest of the irreconcilable participants were explained the inexpediency of entertainment in our time.

"09/24/48. The insurgents demolished the club in the v. of Mykolayiv, after which they destroyed the library, confiscated the radio set and liquidated Fedir Vais, director of the club..."

The list of the victims of the OUN cutthroats, drawn up by the bandits themselves, mentions civilians for the most part — schoolteachers. Why, for example, Yuzvak's nationalist "sharpshooters" executed Mykola Zinchuk? Apparently because he had wanted to work as a free farmer on a collective field. His daughter,

Hanna, saw the execution and her story makes one's blood run cold in one's veins. She will remember that horrible day for so long as she lives.

Such is the truth about the past of those who, having presently donned the masks of pious uprightness, vociferously propagate "true patriotism." There is no way of denying the facts that are provided by the killers themselves and which testify to their criminal doings.

STANISLAV HERMAN.

PEOPLE MUST KNOW THIS

It is hardly likely that people living in the Canadian city of Toronto, especially those residing next door to Vasyl Bakutin, know that their neighbor, outwardly a perfectly decent Christian believer, a kind father and a respectable citizen, is in reality a former Nazi hangman, responsible for the death of innocent victims.

People's memories are ever alive, just as the conscience of the people never stays silent. Both virtually leave no way of escape for those guilty of crimes.

An official document reads: "Vasyl Bakutin, an SD police investigator of the Selydove District police force, took an active part in the mass torturing and shooting of Soviet citizens and prisoners of war."

We leafed through the files of wartime periodicals and came across an issue of a city newspaper, dated September 15, 1943, published immediately after the liberation of the Donbas (Donetsk Coal Basin) area. It contained an of-

ficial account summing up the atrocities committed in that region by the Nazis and their henchmen who had exterminated 6,918 persons in Selydove District alone. A special investigation commission was set up which stated that "The shootings were done by the German military gendarmerie together with policemen Yukhim Dovhoborod and Vasyl Bakutin — the two traitors to their Motherland who had enlisted into the Nazi racket as policemen..."

Our trips to towns and villages of Donetsk Region, our conversations with eyewitnesses provided irrefutable evidence that the Ukrainian Nazi policeman Vasyl Bakutin and the man who bears this name, currently living in Canada (Toronto, Ont.), posing as an honest citizen, are two identities of the same person.

Let us refer ourselves to documents. Among the latter are his service record entered in the archives of the Police Department and an ID card issued in the name of Bakutin. His personal questionnaire contains these lines (written in Ukrainian and lacking in grammar, let alone style); "I am polisman of Selydivky Distrikt Polis Forse." The date of enrollment is December 8, 1941. His pay is 30 marks. "As one belonging to the Ukrainian security police," wrote Vasyl Bakutin, confirming his oath of allegiance to the Nazis together with other traitors of the Ukrainian people, "I hereby pledge to remain faithful, courageous and obedient and I shall diligently discharge my service duties, especially those involved in our struggle against the Bolsheviks."

Among the captured Nazi archives are the lists of "employees of the District Police De-

partment of Selydove," dated May 1942, where Bakutin is entered under No. 16 as an investigation officer of the Criminal Division. His ID card bears a circular seal with a Swastika, certifying that the Nazi toady was promoted to a senior investigator of the SD on November 15, 1942.

"Vasyl Abramovich Bakutin is an investigator of the Criminal Division of the police force in Selydove. Born and residing in the v. of Selydove, Ukrainian by nationality, aged 32-33, slightly over medium height, dark-haired, large and quick eyes. Escaped with the Nazis..." The above is an excerpt from the statement of former policeman V. Boychenko who has served his term and currently resides in Donetsk Region.

Bakutin's service record shows that he started as a rank-and-file policeman, later promoted to an investigator and still later to a senior investigator of the SD. Such was the career of a criminal who sold himself, body and soul, to the Nazis for the Judas thirty pieces of silver.

Now he tries to convince people that the Germans forcibly transported him to Germany. Another lie. He went there of his own accord — or, rather, fled there to escape just punishment which, he knew by then, would be inevitable. Even though close to forty years have elapsed since then, old residents in Selydove still remember how diligently Vasyl Bakutin performed his duties as a Nazi policeman and dedicated assistant. This diligence brought people suffering and horror.

Some of the residents of Selydove who watched the brutalized Nazis and their nationalist

trainees murder innocent Soviet citizens have this to recall. "The hangmen made their victims strip, led them to the edge of a pit or mine and shot them in the back of the head... Within two years a mine shaft 37 m. deep was filled with dead bodies to capacity." They spared neither elders nor children. T. Vystorop, an eyewitness, was horrified to recollect how these cutthroats "grabbed children by the hands and feet, threw them up and shot them in midair."

Among their prey were Ukrainians, Russians and Jews. Bakutin had hardly enlisted into the police force when, together with other Nazi mercenaries, he found himself herding the first Jewish families to the site of execution.

"At 2 p.m.," says O. Ziva, another former participant in this action against the civilian population, "I, together with other policemen — Avramenko, Vasylenko, Ostapenko, Starostenko and Bakutin — escorted a group of Soviet citizens of Jewish parentage from the premises of the District Police Department to the stables of what had once been the District Military Commissariat. Among our captives were Abraham Kowalewski, his wife Fenja Kowalewska, and their children: a baby, aged two, whom the woman carried in her hands, Hanna, 4, and Lyubov, 9. There were also Etja Kowalewska with her one-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter, Aron Mezhirowski, aged 80, and his wife Sarah. The old man was killed by policeman Vasylenko on our way to the site of execution. He finished him off with a bludgeon, saying he thought that a bullet was too much of a luxury for killing such a despicable creature."

All told, some 250 persons were executed in front of the former Military Commissariat. Later, excavations were done on the site and the remains of the victims of the Nazi massacre found the last respite in the specially dug common graves, the ceremony complete with all the attendant honors.

Vasyl Bakutin was in some special favor with chief of the police force Yu. Dovhoborod, once an ordinary criminal whose record qualified him as a sadist with markedly vicious techniques when dealing with Jews. Small wonder, therefore, that Bakutin laid himself out to satisfy, if not outsmart, his master in all of their deadly assignments.

This traitor is also painfully vivid in the memories of S. Ponomarenko, a resident of the village of Novoselydove whose face and hands bear the unmistakable traces of burning and mutilation.

At the end of August 1943, Vasyl Bakutin took part in arresting eight residents of that village who were suspected of contacts with the partisans, and then conducted the investigation. Neither third degree nor physical abuses could prove the charges. Nevertheless, Bakutin and other policemen escorted them to the District Gendarmerie, knowing that the victims would never return from there; nobody ever had. Before they set off, he painted a "P" in blue on the chest of each, which meant that the victims were involved with the partisans. This alone automatically condemned them to death.

The system of mass extermination worked as a well-balanced mechanism. "When the Soviet troops were on the offensive, the SS men began

to enter one prison cell after another, shooting the inmates," recalls S. Ponomarenko, one of those sent to death by Vasyl Bakutin. "There were some 20 people in our cell. We tore several boards off the floor and when the SS men opened the door we killed one of them. The Nazis shut the door and opened fire through the windows. They kept on shooting until they were satisfied that all inmates were dead. I was wounded and found myself buried under the bodies of my comrades. Retreating, the Nazis set fire to the prison. I was badly burned when I managed to get out of the heap of bodies and then crawled home for several days and nights."

Sensing impending danger, Bakutin acted like a skunk fleeing from its lair when he ran away from his native land after the hastily retreating Nazis, accompanied by traitors like him. Fear chased him across Europe for a long time until he found himself in Canada. The criminal figured that there, in Toronto, his heinous past would never be discovered. All secrets, however, are known to become exposed, sooner or later.

VOLODYMYR TOPOLYA.

UKRAINA SOCIETY
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